



STATE OF WASHINGTON
MILITARY DEPARTMENT
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIVISION

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October 17, 2014

Mr. Steven V. King
Executive Director and Secretary
Washington State Utilities and Transportation Commission
1300 South Evergreen Park Drive SW
PO Box 47250
Olympia, Washington 98504-7250

RE: Inquiry - 911 Excise Tax Petition to the UTC Docket UT-143247

Dear Mr. King,

In response to your request for additional information regarding the Washington Military Department, Emergency Management Division Enhanced 911 (E911) Program Office petition for the 2015 E911 Excise Tax level, the following information is provided:

The E911 Program Office budget and spending authority request for the State Fiscal Years 2014 and 2015 as presented in the petition has been approved through the Washington Military Department (WMD) budget process and the Washington State Office of Financial Management (OFM). All state and county E911 excise tax revenues are remitted by vendors directly to the Washington State Department of Revenue (DOR), which in turn distributes the appropriate funds to the respective government entities in accordance with RCW Chapter 82.14B.

As part of the statewide transition to Next Generation 9-1-1 (NG911), the backbone of the entire system is the transition from the legacy 9-1-1 network to an internet protocol (IP) based Emergency Services Information Network (ESInet). The State of Washington and WMD maintains contracts with CenturyLink to provide the ESInet for the entire state.

The current value of the ESInet implementation contract with CenturyLink is \$59,969,777. Of that \$11,798,080 is designated for investment (implementation), and \$48,171,697 for



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maintenance (recurring cost of service). The current contract extension is scheduled for completion in December 2014, which will complete ESInet implementation through phase four of the anticipated six phases of implementation. The following phases will be completed through either an amendment to the existing contract, or the solicitation of a new contract. It is anticipated that the ESInet will be fully implemented by 2017.

For the 2013 -2015 biennium, the Washington State Legislature allocated \$14.3 million from the state E911 account to programs other than the state E911 Program Office. Of this, approximately \$10.8 million was allocated to the WMD for programs other than E911, and \$3.5 million to the Washington State Patrol.

As reflected in the petition, it is anticipated that the state E911 account will have sufficient revenues to fund our approved budget assuming that the E911 excise tax levels remain at their current levels for the entire biennium. Although a funding shortfall is not anticipated, the state E911 program office will actively seek out other funding opportunities that may exist through federal grants and other sources to supplement the state E911 account whenever possible.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 253-512-7468.

Sincerely,



Sigfred J. Dahl

Washington State E911 Coordinator

Cc: Rebecca Beaton, Washington State Utilities and Transportation Commission